Pre-synopsis for the Award of Ph.D. Degree
On

"A Study of Status of Women in the Select Novels of Sudha Murty"

to
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Submitted
To

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Introduction:

Indian writing in English has a long tradition of more than hundred and fifty years. Indian English literature has tried to cover many topics from the beginning to the present. A number of socio-cultural problems in the society are covered in Indian English literature. There is a strong connection between literature and society. Literature is an important part of society. Indian English literature covers a wide range of subjects. Indian English literature has a special place in Indian literature. Post-independence Indian English literature has played an important role in enriching new ideologies like modernity, Dalit literature, and Feminist literature etc.

Good art is created through suffering and struggle. Breaking the dominance of male writers, after independence, female writers have worked in the field of writing. It was easy to set foot in the writing field, but hard to survive in that field. Women writers stared writing very boldly and it took shape in women's liberation movement. Their writings have paved the way to bring dreams of feminism, women rights, and women's empowerment into reality.

SudhaMurty is an Indian writer. She has completed her master degree in electrical engineering fromthe Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. She has taught computer science at Bangalore University. She wrote many books in English and Kannada languages. She wrote novels, non-fiction, travelogues, technical books, and memoirs. Her books are translated into all major Indian languages. Sudha Murty is one of the famous Indian writers in English. She started her writing in Kannada and then wrote in English.She became a famous as writer of common people. Her writing includes novel, novella, short stories and child literature. She wrote about her day-to-day real experience, her social work, Indian tradition, Indian value, and human behaviour, effect of globalization on Indian people and on living condition of Indian people.

SudhaMurty's writing is a nice combination of old Indian literature, ancient India and modern India. What are the changes in 21st century's Indian traditions? What is the effect of globalization? In modern India what are changes in society, in the economic conditions? She writes about all these things and that too in a very simple language. While writing literature she uses her real life experience and makes writing is real.

Indian women novelists influenced by the women's liberation movement. These novels are feminist with woman as the central character who reacts against the existing social set up. Sudha Murty being a social worker and a feminist always worked towards the

betterment of the society and the rural development. She worked hard to improve the position of women in the society.

The present study is aimed at analysingcritically women characters in Sudha Murty's novels. What type of women characters are described or portrayed in her novels, that will be the core idea of discussion? Sudha Murty deals with women and women's issues in her novels. She feels that though women are becoming economically independent, many of them are bounded with emotional and social dependence.

SudhaMurty came into limelight with the publication of her first novel, *Dollar Bahu*in 2005. Her novels have women titles like *Mahashweta, Dollar Bahu* which suggest Murty's preoccupation with the problems of women in Indian society. They are not house wives like the women characters in other novels. The second important aspect of her writing is that even women in high income groups suffer because of traditions and cultures. Murty seems extremely balanced when she puts the blame not only on men of the family but also on the women. Murty, many times, showed the clash of interest between the first generation of women and the second generation of women in her novels. It invariably ended in the loss of face for the younger generation. Sudha Murty's writing is a wonderful combination of old Indian and the new Indian twentieth century culture. Anand in *Mahashweta,* Guramma in *Dollar Bahu* came from the struggling middle class families. The author sheds light on the realistic picture of post-colonial India and the world. These works reverberate with the problems of women and exploding violence which has reached to alarming levels in their country as well as in whole world. The reason for the success of Sudha Murty as a prolific writer can be found in the themes and narrative techniques in her novels

The main purpose of this research is to study the struggle faced by the women. How they rise above their existence in search of a meaningful life and start a new life to fulfil their aspirations. Sudha Murty is a famous writer in Indian English literature. Her literature indicates the effect of globalization on Indian people and their relations in modern India. Her writing includes both traditional and modern women. She connected artistically bothto the old and new India, which makes her a real Indian writer. The technique of narration is similar to ancient Indian literature. Her writing shows a direct link to real life. Sudha Murty through her novels empowers women and motivates them to be courageous in adverse situations. Now a day, in India, Indian English literature has become a major part of syllabus. A number of topics are included in school syllabus from Sudha Murty's books. She wrote about real facts of India and the people of India. So it has become very important to study her literature

from various points of views. This research will help to understand Sudha Murty's literature in a better way**.** Her stories give a clear insight of strong Indian values with modern twist.

Importance of research:

Literature is a mirror of society. Society is made up of individuals. Individuals' emotions, feeling, thoughts, values, duties, rights etc. are expressed in the form of scripts through language and words by appealing to the heart and this is the source of literature. Women's literature shows the struggle for women's existence. This society is suffering from political, social, gender and other problems. This research is important to understand women; and improve the situation of women in today's society to establish gender-equality.

Objectives of the Study:

1**.** To study the picture of women characters in Sudha Murty's novels.
2. To study experiences and perceptions of women in Sudha Murty's novels.
3. To examine the difference between social status of men and women in the novels of SudhaMurty.
4. To study economic, education and family status of women in Sudha Murty's Novels.
5. To demystify women characters from a social, cultural and literary point of view.
6. To study the struggle of women; how they overcome the barriers by finding a solution to lead a meaningful life.

Scope and Limitation:

The study is limited to the following works by Sudha Murty:
1) Dollar Bahu---------- 2005
2) Mahashweta---------- 2007
3) Gently Falls the Bakula---------- 2008
The researcher will focus primarily on these three novels and will also study Sudha Murty's other novels in general.

Research Gap:

After taking a sufficient review of literature,the researcher found that there is no research on this topic so far. No researcher has discussed her novels from this point of view,

so researcher has found the research gap to find out the status of women in the novels of Sudha Murty.

Statement of Problem:

A Study of Status of Women in the Select Novels of Sudha Murty

Hypothesis:

Null hypothesis: There is no significant difference between status of men and women in the novels of Sudha Murty.

Positive hypothesis: Women empowerment is not possible without equal status women with men.

Methodology:

For the present research analytical research methodology will be used. The research will be entirely qualitative research as the data collected for the research is not quantitative but qualitative that is the selected novels of Sudha Murty. Hence the research will be qualitative. The primary source of data collection for research will be the novels of Sudha Murty. Secondary source of data collection for the research will be the different research papers, research journals and critical books of different critics.The M.L.A. style will be followed for the referencing and bibliography. Since the proposed work needs no field work the study will be focused on the all novels with special emphasis on *Dollar Bahu* (2005), *Mahashweta*(2007) and *Gently Falls the Bakula* (2008).The reference books, journals and interviews etc. will be referred. The discussion with eminent scholars will be done for reach the conclusion.

TENTATIVE CHAPTER SCHEME

The tentative chapter scheme is as below:

Preface and Acknowledgement

Chapter I: Introduction

Chapter II: Mahashweta

Chapter III: Dollar Bahu

Chapter IV: Gently Falls of Bakula

Chapter V: Conclusion

Bibliography.

Chapter I: Introduction

In the first introductory chapter, researcher will give the writer's brief introduction and there will be the introduction to the subject taken for research. In this chapter researcher will tell about writer and literature. Researcher will explain the profile of the writer, early life etc. Researcher will discuss about Sudha Murty as woman writer. Sudha Murty is a perfect idol of a 'Modern Indian Woman'. How her novels give a clear insight of the strong Indian values with a modern twist that will be discussed in this chapter.

Chapter II:*Mahashweta*

In this chapter a detailed study of *Mahashweta* will be made. There will be a deep analysis of men and women characters. A separate study will be made of women characters to understand their psychological, educational, social, familial background to estimate their status. In the second chapter researcher will discuss Sudha Murty's novels as thoughtfully-crafted and articulated set of creative literary works. In this chapter researcher will explore Sudha Murty's novels addressing to many modern social problems of women. Women and women's issues are a central concern of sudha Murty's novels. Sudha Murty's women characters are abrasive, educated, respectable, and belonging to middle to lower middle class. *Mahashweta* is one of the best works of Sudha Murty. The novel portraitsa young beautiful and bold girl named Anupama. She gets married as in a fairy tale and later she was affected by leukoderma and her life becomes tragedy. *Mahashweta* tells about the superstitious beliefs and sufferings of Anupama and later how the protagonists in her novels are ordinary women who effectively handle extraordinary responsibilities, problems and emerge as new beings with education and culture. Thirst for knowledge and anxieties of women life make a way for new women. *Mahashweta*is eye–opening novel for the modern Indian women.The researcher will deal with the concepts of women empowerment like pursuing education, participating in community activity, associating with organizations, expressing idea and self-esteem.

Sudha Murty provides access to the knowledge resources to her women carvingfor their authentic self; so that they may reach to the top level with knowledge dissemination and thereby control the process of decision making in home affairs, career and financial matters with freedom of express themselves.

In a way all this helps to minimize the negative portrayal of women as timid, beauty-conscious, ornament lovers etc. The positive portrayals of women with all her positive negative attributes provide a better life in parents'in-laws home and in community. She has to be treated naturally and with a sense of recognition. In wider sense Anupama in *Mahashweta* has been spotted as empowering women who augments her capacity to influence the society in general and women in particular by undertaking and reshaping resource allocation and altering her choices and acquiring to the power house of decision making process in personal, professional, social life.

Chapter III: *Dollar Bahu*

In this chapter a detailed study of *Dollar Bahu* will be made. There will be a deep analysis of men and women characters.A separate study will be made of women characters to understand their psychological, educational, social, familial background to estimate their status. In the third chapter researcher will discuss how Sudha Murty's novels as thoughtfully-crafted and articulated as creative literary works. In this chapter researcher will discuss Sudha Murty's novels; how they address to many modern social problems of women. Women and women's issues are a central concern of sudha Murty's novels.

Sudha Murty's women characters are abrasive, educated, respectable, and belonging to middle to lower middle class. The novel portraits a young beautiful and bold girl named Vinuta. *Dollar Bahu* tells about the superstitious beliefs and sufferings of Vinuta and later on how this woman effectively handle extraordinary responsibilities, problems and emerge as a new being with education and culture. Thirst for knowledge and anxieties of women life make a way for new women.The researcher will deals with the concepts of women empowerment like pursuing education, participating in community activity, associating with organizations, expressing idea and self-esteem.

Sudha Murthy provides access to the knowledge resources to her women encouraging them to reach their authentic self. So that they may reach to the top level with knowledge dissemination and thereby control the process of decision making in home affairs, career and its progress, financial matters, freedom of express themselves.

Chapter IV: *Gently Falls the Bakula*

In this chapter a detailed study of *Gently Falls the Bakula* will be made. There will be a deep analysis of men and women characters.A separate study will be made of women characters to understand their psychological, educational, social, familial background to estimate their social status. In the fourth chapter researcher will discuss Sudha Murty's novels as thoughtfully-crafted and articulated set of creative literary works. In this chapter researcher will explore Sudha Murty's novels addressing so many modern social problems of women. Women and women's issues are a central concern of Sudha Murty's novels. Sudha Murty's women characters are abrasive, educated, respectable, and belonging to middle to lower middle class. *Gently Falls the Bakula* tells about the superstitious beliefs and sufferings of Shrimati and later how the protagonists in her novels are ordinary women who effectively handle extraordinary responsibilities, problems and emerge as new beings with education and culture. Thirst for knowledge and anxieties of women life make a way for new women.The researcher will be explained the concepts of women empowerment like pursuing education, participating in community activity, associating with organizations, expressing idea and self-esteem.

Sudha Murty provides access to the knowledge resources to her women encouraging to carve their authentic self, so that they may reach to the top level with knowledge dissemination and thereby control the process of decision making in home affairs, career and its progress, financial matters, freedom of expressthemselves.

The traditional portrayal of women is limited to her beauty-consciousness. But a new kind of approach is taken by Sudha Murty through her novels. The positive portrayal of women with all their positive sides is Murty's speciality. And the novel *Gently Falls the Bakula*will through light on this aspect.

Chapter V: Conclusion

The fifth chapter will be conclusion. It will take an overview of Murty's works in general and the present study. In this chapter researcher will explain purpose behind this study and what the author Murtyconveys through her literature.This will be the concluding chapter of the thesis. It will summarize the study with concluding remarks, major finding and scope for further research.

Review of Literature

Some works have been done by Sudha Murty's literature. Research papers have been published in various national and international seminars and various journals.

On the topic "Familiar relationship in the works of Sudha Murty" a study ismade by Vijay Lakshmi k under the guidance of G. Arunadevi from AnnamalaiUniversity. It deals with family relations in general.

With a topic "Feminist consciousness in India women writers with special reference to Kiran Desai and Sudha Murty" a research is done by Joshi Shakun with feminist approach under the guidance of Rao, Ashok Singh from Mody University of Science and Technology.

"Enunciating the quest of the India society an analysis of Sudha Murty" is a research work by S. Premawith special stress on Indian society under the guidance of Aruna Arputhamalar from Vel Tech Dr. R.R. and Dr.S.P. Technical University.

"Delineation of human relationships select novels of Sudha Murty and Varsha Adalja" is a study made the guidance of Vyas, Manish A. from Saurashtra University to study human relations in general.

Bibliography

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4. Sudha Murty (2013). *House of Cards*.New Delhi, Penguin Books.
5. http://www.rjelal.com;
6. https://www.britannica.com/art/Indian-literature
7. www.imdb.com/title/tt0836073/

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Acceptance Letter

To,
The Registrar,
P.G. Section,
S.R. T.M. University, Nanded

Date: 20/03/2022

Sub: Regarding acceptance to supervise the candidate for the award of Ph. D. Degree.

Respected Sir,

I accept the candidate, **WaradManisha Annarao**, allotted to me by the University as my research candidatefor the award of Ph. D. Degree.

She has worked satisfactorily on the topic "***A Study of Status of Women in the Select Novels of Sudha Murty*****",**after much discussion on it. I will supervise this candidate for the award of doctoral degree.